Intelligence Production Course #2-74

Guidelines for Research Project

Objective

The purpose of this project is to give you an opportunity to study some aspect of the environment surrounding your current or anticipated assignment in the agency.

Selection of Topics

The topic you choose for study should be directly related to your assignment. The subject might be related to findings from your sources survey. Considering the limitations on your free time in the course, it cannot be an in-depth study. You should have your topic approved by the course chairman before starting. Some possible categories for research are suggested below; however, feel free to select a topic which will be of most benefit and interest to you.

Possible Topics

1. History of intelligence research on the country or subject on which you will be working.

2. Evaluation of your branch's finished intelligence products produced in the last year or two.

3. Comparison of your branch's reporting with that of other intelligence organizations' reporting (such as DIA, INR).

4. Changes in your branch's finished intelligence products over past 3 to 5 years:
(a) in type of topics
(b) in style
(c) in type of requesters or in consumers

5. Future plans and directions of your office. (changes in intelligence, productivity and focus).

6. R & D contracts in your branch or division over the past years

7. Trends in the utilization of newer methodologies in research by analysts in your office.

8. Collection guidance methods used by your branch; problems, successes, failures.

Reports

A formal written report on your project is <u>not</u> required. Instead we will have a period for 10 minute oral reports following completion of the projects during the last week of the course. These reports will be critiqued to give you an idea of how your briefing style is developing. We would also like some written evidence of how you spent your time during the project. This may be in the form of hand written notes, memoranda of conversation, a bibliography, or anything else appropriate. At the minimum, you will be asked to submit a brief (one or two page) informational outline of your findings.

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